

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: M.R. Hansen et al.

Attorney Docket No. WEYE115753

Application No.:

Group Art Unit:

Filed:

Examiner:

Title: METHOD OF BINDING PARTICLES TO BINDER TREATED FIBERS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Seattle, Washington 98101

TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Prior to examination of the above-identified divisional application, please cancel Claims 1-54 and add Claims 55-70 that follow.

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims:

Please cancel Claims 1-54.

Please add new Claims 55-70:

~~55. A method of binding superabsorbent particles to fibers comprising the steps of:
providing fiber comprising hydrogen bonding functional sites and a binder comprising a non-polymeric binder having functional groups selected from the group consisting of a carboxyl, a carboxylate, a carbonyl, a sulfonic acid, a sulfonate, a hydroxyl, a phosphoric acid, a phosphate, an amide, an amine, and combinations thereof, the binder comprising binder molecules, the binder molecules having at least one functional group capable of forming a hydrogen bond or a coordinate covalent bond with the particles, and at least one functional group capable of forming a hydrogen bond with the fiber;~~

~~combining superabsorbent particles having a hydrogen or a coordinate covalent bonding functional site with the fiber; and~~

~~binding the superabsorbent particles to the fiber.~~